UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# LATIN *PARENS*
# ITS MEANINGS AND USES

MERLE MIDDLETON ODGERS

A THESIS

IN LATIN

PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

PHILADELPHIA
1928

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M. M. O.

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# I. INTRODUCTION

Latin *parens* is a participle of *pario*. It may be explained as a participle of a lost present without the *-i-* or as an isolated remnant of the participle of an aorist with a short radical vowel [1].

Because *pario* means primarily 'bring forth' or 'bear', one would make the a priori assumption that *parens* was originally of the feminine gender and that it was later generalized to mean a parent of either sex. This generalization has been carried still further in French, in which it may refer to any relative or, in the plural, to ancestors in general. With the thought that the Latin literature of the Republican period might, perhaps, show some traces of this development in gender, I undertook an investigation of the word and of other words of parenthood in all the extant literature down to the death of Julius Caesar.

I have been interested in determining whether there was at different times any difference in the meaning of *parens* so far as gender was concerned : that is, if it was first feminine and then of masculine or common gender, or if, which would be surprising, it was first masculine ; second, whether the gender is indicated, in most instances, by the context or by a specific word, or is not shown ; third, if the plural, either throughout the whole earlier period or in different authors, meant 'father and mother' or 'fathers and mothers' or 'fathers' or 'mothers' ; fourth, which gender predominated in each author and whether this was the result of his own preference or because of the character of the literature ; and fifth, to what degree each author preferred to use *pater* and *mater* rather than *parens*.

This treatment of *parens* will not involve a morphological study of the word nor of *pater* and *mater* [2]. Nor will it include an investiga-

1. A. Meillet, *Mémoires de la Société de Linguistique de Paris*, 20.264, and A. Juret, ib. 20.156.

2. See Karl E. Georges, *Lexikon der lateinischen Wortformen*, Leipzig, 1890 pp. 411, 494, and 498 ; Neue-Wagener, *Formenlehre der lateinischen Sprache*, Leipzig, 1902, I, pp. 377, 378, 382, 388, 391, 404-406, et al. ; Ferdinand Sommer, *Handbuch der lateinischen Laut- und Formenlehre*, 2nd edition, Heidelberg, 1914. pp. 74, 372, and 383 ; and E. von Wölfflin, *Archiv für lateinische Lexikographie und Grammatik* 5.489. A. Funck, *Archiv für lateinische Lexikographie und Grammatik* 7.584-586, discusses the use of *parens*, *pater*, and *mater*, in some inscriptions in *CIL* IV.

| | *parens* | | *pater* | | *mater* | | total occurrences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Caesar : | 5 | 11.4% | 29 | 65.9% | 10 | 22.7% | 44 |
| Cato : | 0 | 0 | 11 | 100. | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Catullus : | 17 | 26.2 | 18 | 27.7 | 30 | 46.2 | 65 |
| Cicero, | | | | | | | |
| orations : | 112 | 14.2 | 566 | 71.8 | 110 | 14. | 788 |
| corresp. : | 19 | 10.6 | 118 | 65.9 | 42 | 23.5 | 179 |
| rhet. works : | 24 | 19.2 | 77 | 61.6 | 24 | 19.2 | 125 |
| phil. works : | 62 | 20.1 | 199 | 64.6 | 47 | 15.3 | 308 |
| Ennius : | 3 | 7.5 | 29 | 72.5 | 8 | 20. | 40 |
| Fragments[3] : | 31 | 16.1 | 110 | 57. | 52 | 26.9 | 193 |
| Lucilius : | 1 | 9.1 | 8 | 72.7 | 2 | 18.2 | 11 |
| Lucretius : | 12 | 26.1 | 13 | 28.3 | 21 | 45.7 | 46 |
| Naevius : | 0 | 0 | 7 | 87.5 | 1 | 12.5 | 8 |
| Nepos : | 6 | 10.2 | 36 | 61. | 17 | 28.8 | 59 |
| Plautus : | 43 | 6.6 | 461 | 70.6 | 149 | 22.8 | 653 |
| *Rhet. ad Her.* : | 18 | 46.2 | 13 | 33.3 | 8 | 20.5 | 39 |
| Sallust : | 20 | 26.7 | 51 | 68. | 4 | 5.3 | 75 |
| Terence : | 13 | 5. | 195 | 75.6 | 50 | 19.4 | 258 |
| Varro : | 9 | 9.1 | 36 | 36.4 | 54 | 54.5 | 99 |
| Totals : | 395 | 13.2% | 1977 | 65.9% | 629 | 21.0% | 3001 |

TABLE I
OCCURRENCES OF THE THREE WORDS WITH THEIR RELATIVE PERCENTAGES

tion of the meaning of the word except so far as gender is concerned[4].

I have carefully gone through all the Republican literature and noted passages in which words of parenthood were encountered. In the case of works for which word indices[5] are accessible I have been able to test my own accuracy in listing occurrences, and I have found that my omissions rarely exceeded one per cent of the entire number.

3. The precise number of occurrences of *parens*, *pater*, and *mater* respectively in the divisions of the fragments is as follows : dramatic 12, 61, 23 ; historical 2, 5, 1 ; oratorical 2, 4, 4 ; poetical 1, 4, 4; epigraphical 14, 36, 20. The dramatic and epigraphical fragments form the only significant groups. The number of occurrences of *parens* in the dramatic fragments represents 12.5% of the total number of words of parenthood. For the epigraphical fragments the percentage is 20.

4. See the *Totius Latinitatis Lexicon* of Aegidio Forcellini, Vincenzo De-Vit's edition, Florence, 1868 ; vol. 4, pp. 502-503. *Pater* and *mater* present no difficult interpretations. The earliest occurrence of *patres* with the meaning of *parentes* is in Vergil's Aeneid 2.579, if we accept the interpretation of many editors. See Edith Fahnestock and Mary B. Peaks, *A Vulgar Latin Origin for Spanish Padres Meaning 'Father and Mother'* ; *TAPA* 44.77-86. Cf. Sanskrit *pitdrāu*, *bhrātarāu*, and *mitrā*, and see H. Lang, *Romanic Review* 2.339.

5. These were M. N. Wetmore's *Index Verborum Catullianus*, H. Merguet's

# II. WORDS OF PARENTHOOD IN LATIN

Several words are used to express parenthood in the Republican period, but such terms as *genitor*, *genetrix*, *creator*, *creatrix*, *omniparens*, and *sator* are used very infrequently. Some of the major authors of the period use no words of parenthood other than *pater*, *mater*, and *parens*, and in the others the number of occurrences is so trifling that we can limit our study to the three words most commonly employed [6].

In Table I under each of the three words appears the number of times it occurs in each writer or division of the study and the percentage which this number represents in respect to the total number of examples of the three words in the author or division. A full explanation of Table II is given below it.

*Lexikon zu den Reden des Cicero* and *Lexikon zu den Schriften Cicero's*, J. Paulson's *Index Lucretianus* ; also the indices appearing in the editions of Lucilius, Sallust's *Histories*, and the dramatic and historical fragments, and in the Delphin editions of Caesar, Plautus, Sallust, and Terence.

6. Examples of the use of the less common words may be seen in the following: *creator*, Cic. *pro Balbo* 13.31 ; *creatrix*, Cat. 63.50, Lucr. 1.629, 2.1117, and 5.1362 ; *genetrix*, Enn. *Ann.* 1.52, Laevius *Phoenix* 22 (Baehrens), Lucr. 1.1 and 2.599 ; *genitor*, Cic. *Timaeus* 13.47, Lucr. 2.615, Cat. 63.59 ; *matercula*, Plaut. *Cist.* 452, Cic. *pro Flacco* 36.91 ; *matrix*, Varro *RR* 2.5.12 ; *omniparens*, Lucr. 2.706 and 5.259 ; *procreator*, Cic. *Fin.* 4.7.17 ; *procreatrix*, Cic. *de Oratore* 1.3.9 ; *progenitor*, Valerius Soranus 4 (Baehrens) ; *sator*, Cic. *ND* 2.34.86.

| | I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII | IX | X | XI | XII |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Caesar : | 1 | 21 | 4 | 26 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 18 | 44 | 3.8 | 80.8 | 15.4 |
| Cato : | 0 | 11 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0. | 100. | 0. |
| Catullus : | 11 | 18 | 29 | 58 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 65 | 19. | 31. | 50. |
| Cicero, entire : | 132 | 621 | 201 | 954 | 85 | 339 | 22 | 446 | 1400 | 13.8 | 65.1 | 21.1 |
| orations : | 78 | 311 | 99 | 488 | 34 | 255 | 11 | 300 | 788 | 16. | 63.7 | 20.3 |
| corresp. : | 13 | 110 | 41 | 164 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 15 | 179 | 7.9 | 67.1 | 25. |
| rhet. works : | 9 | 65 | 22 | 96 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 29 | 125 | 9.4 | 67.7 | 23. |
| phil. works : | 32 | 135 | 39 | 206 | 30 | 64 | 8 | 102 | 308 | 15.5 | 65.5 | 19. |
| Ennius : | 2 | 27 | 8 | 37 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 40 | 5.4 | 73. | 21.6 |
| Fragments : | 18 | 105 | 51 | 174 | 13 | 5 | 1 | 19 | 193 | 10.3 | 60.3 | 29.3 |
| Lucilius : | 0 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 0. | 77.8 | 22.2 |
| Lucretius : | 3 | 6 | 18 | 27 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 19 | 46 | 11.1 | 22.2 | 66.7 |
| Naevius : | 0 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 0. | 83.3 | 16.7 |
| Nepos : | 4 | 35 | 17 | 56 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 59 | 7.1 | 62.5 | 30.4 |
| Plautus : | 3 | 455 | 147 | 605 | 40 | 6 | 2 | 48 | 653 | .5 | 75.2 | 24.3 |
| *Rhet. ad Her.* : | 8 | 12 | 7 | 27 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 39 | 29.6 | 44.4 | 25.9 |
| Sallust : | 6 | 10 | 2 | 18 | 14 | 41 | 2 | 57 | 75 | 33.3 | 55.6 | 11.1 |
| Terence : | 6 | 190 | 48 | 244 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 14 | 258 | 2.5 | 77.9 | 19.7 |
| Varro : | 2 | 27 | 30 | 59 | 7 | 9 | 24 | 40 | 99 | 3.4 | 45.8 | 50.8 |

Table II A

I : occurrences of *parens* in the singular.
II : occurrences of *pater* in the singular.
III : occurrences of *mater* in the singular.
IV : occurrences of all three words in the singular.
V : occurrences of *parens* in the plural.
VI : occurrences of *pater* in the plural.
VII : occurrences of *mater* in the plural.
VIII : occurrences of all three words in the plural.
IX : total occurrences of all three words in both numbers.
X : percentage of occurrences of *parens* in the singular to the occurrences of all three words in the singular (of I to IV).
XI : percentage of occurrences of *pater* in the singular to the occurrences of all three words in the singular (of II to IV).
XII : percentage of occurrences of *mater* in the singular to the occurrences of all three words in the singular (of III to IV).

| XIII | XIV | XV | XVI | XVII | XVIII | XIX | XX | XXI | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2.3 | 47.7 | 9.1 | 22.2 | 44.4 | 33.3 | 9.1 | 18.2 | 13.6 | Caesar |
| 0. | 100. | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. | Cato |
| 16.9 | 27.7 | 44.6 | 85.7 | 0. | 14.3 | 9.1 | 0. | 1.6 | Catullus |
| 9.4 | 44.4 | 14.4 | 19.1 | 76. | 4.9 | 6.1 | 24.2 | 1.6 | Cicero, entire |
| 9.9 | 39.5 | 12.6 | 11.3 | 85. | 3.7 | 4.3 | 32.4 | 1.4 | orations |
| 7.3 | 61.5 | 22.9 | 40. | 53.3 | 6.7 | 3.4 | 4.5 | .6 | corresp. |
| 7.2 | 52. | 17.6 | 51.7 | 41.3 | 6.9 | 12. | 9.6 | 1.6 | rhet. works |
| 10.4 | 43.8 | 12.7 | 29.4 | 62.7 | 7.8 | 9.7 | 20.8 | 2.6 | phil. works |
| 5. | 67.5 | 20. | 33.3 | 66.7 | 0. | 2.5 | 5. | 0. | Ennius |
| 9.3 | 54.4 | 26.4 | 68.4 | 26.3 | 5.3 | 6.7 | 2.6 | .5 | Fragments |
| 0. | 63.6 | 18.2 | 50. | 50. | 0. | 9.1 | 9.1 | 0. | Lucilius |
| 6.5 | 13. | 39.1 | 47.4 | 36.8 | 15.8 | 19.6 | 15.2 | 6.5 | Lucretius |
| 0. | 62.5 | 12.5 | 0. | 100. | 0. | 0. | 25. | 0. | Naevius |
| 6.8 | 59.3 | 28.8 | 66.7 | 33.3 | 0. | 3.4 | 1.7 | 0. | Nepos |
| .5 | 69.7 | 22.5 | 83.3 | 12.5 | 4.2 | 6.1 | .9 | .3 | Plautus |
| 20.5 | 30.8 | 17.9 | 83.3 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 25.6 | 2.6 | 2.6 | *Rhet. ad Her.* |
| 8. | 13.3 | 2.7 | 24.6 | 71.9 | 3.5 | 18.7 | 54.7 | 2.7 | Sallust |
| 2.3 | 73.6 | 18.6 | 50. | 35.7 | 14.3 | 2.7 | 1.9 | .8 | Terence |
| 2. | 27.3 | 30.3 | 17.5 | 22.5 | 60. | 7.1 | 9.1 | 24.2 | Varro |

Table II B

XIII : percentage of occurrences of *parens* in the singular to the occurrences of all three words in both numbers (of I to IX).
XIV : percentage of occurrences of *pater* in the singular to the occurrences of all three words in both numbers (of II to IX).
XV : percentage of occurrences of *mater* in the singular to the occurrences of all three words in both numbers (of III to IX).
XVI : percentage of occurrences of *parens* in the plural to the occurrences of all three words in the plural (of V to VIII).
XVII : percentage of occurrences of *pater* in the plural to the occurrences of all three words in the plural (of VI to VIII).
XVIII : percentage of occurrences of *mater* in the plural to the occurrences of all three words in the plural (of VII to VIII).
XIX : percentage of occurrences of *parens* in the plural to the occurrences of all three words in both numbers (of V to IX).
XX : percentage of occurrences of *pater* in the plural to the occurrences of all three words in both numbers (of VI to IX).
XXI : percentage of occurrences of *mater* in the plural to the occurrences of all three words in both numbers (of VII to IX).

# III. MEANINGS OF THE SINGULAR OF *PARENS*

The meanings of *pater* and *mater* present no problems in either the singular or the plural. *Parens* may now be more fully considered. Whatever change of gender this word underwent must have been completed in the pre-literary period of Latin, or, at any rate, before our extant literature was written. It happens that *parens* is masculine in the earliest example of its use, *Carmen Saliare* 1 (Baehrens) :

divóm paréntem cánte,
divóm deo súpplicáte.

Moreover, there is a tendency to use *parens* as masculine in the singular and to use the plural as including a male parent; and it is not possible to note any deviation from this tendency at any point in the history of the word. It is for this reason that the tables throughout this dissertation list the authors and divisions of the study in their alphabetical order rather than in their chronological order, the former being more convenient.

There are 196 occurences of *parens* in the singular. Table III indicates their use as of masculine, feminine, or undetermined gender. The last group includes instances (1) where *parens* is of common gender and refers to 'parent' without reference to sex[7], and (2) where there is real doubt concerning the gender and it is indeterminable.

An example of its use in the masculine gender is in Cicero, *Dom.* 35.94 : quod me non ut crudelem tyrannum, sed ut mitissimum parentem omnium civium studiis desideratum, repetitum, arcessitum vident.

The feminine is exemplified by Cicero, *Phil.* II. 20.49 : aude dicere te prius ad parentem tuam venisse quam ad me.

The gender of *parentem* is indeterminable in Cicero, *Invent.* 2.50.149 : Quidam iudicatus est parentem occidisse. Here the

7. See Neue-Wagener 1.891, where *parens* is grouped with *coniunx*, *compar*, *consors*, *adfinis*, *patruelis*, *senex*, *iuvenis*, *adulescens*, *infans*, and the older *puer*, *nepos*, and *socrus* as a word of common gender. Further discussion appears on pp. 892-893.

| | 'father' | 'mother' | undetermined | totals |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Caesar : | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Cato : | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Catullus : | 10 | 1 | 0 | 11 |
| Cicero, | | | | |
| orations : | 68 | 9 | 1 | 78 |
| corresp. : | 11 | 2 | 0 | 13 |
| rhet. works : | 4 | 2 | 3 | 9 |
| phil. works : | 23 | 4 | 5 | 32 |
| Ennius : | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Fragments : | 16 | 1 | 1 | 18 |
| Lucilius : | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lucretius : | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Naevius : | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nepos : | 3 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Plautus : | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| *Rhet. ad Her.* : | 4 | 1 | 3 | 8 |
| Sallust : | 5 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Terence : | 4 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Varro : | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Totals : | 156 | 24 | 16 | 196 |

TABLE III

MEANINGS OF THE OCCURRENCES OF THE SINGULAR OF *PARENS*.

context furnishes no clue as to whether a father or a mother was murdered. In several passages, however, where the text leaves the gender doubtful, it seems likely that the author had a male parent in mind.

In the fragments, where one encounters the oldest surviving instances of *parens*, it is almost exclusively of the masculine gender. In fact, the investigation shows that throughout the Republican period the singular of *parens* mean 'father' six times as often as 'mother'. Yet the singular of *pater* is not used three times as often as the singular of *mater*, as Table XIX indicates. In other words, instead of being used as a feminine as often as one would expect, the singular of *parens* is predominantly masculine.

## IV. MEANINGS OF THE PLURAL OF *PARENS*.

The plural of *parens* is a convenient word for the meaning *pater et mater* or *patres et matres*. Neither *patres* nor *matres* will properly express this meaning. Although the plural of *parens* proves to have a variety of meanings, we may well expect the meanings 'father and mother' and 'fathers and mothers' to predominate. Moreover, because of its convenience we may expect the plural of *parens* to occur more often relatively than the singular.

The meaning 'father and mother' appears in Catullus 64.400: destitit extinctos natus lugere parentes. Here a specific pair of parents is referred to.

The meaning 'fathers and mothers' is exemplified by Caesar, *BC* 2.41.8: hi de sua salute desperantes, ut extremo vitae tempore homines facere consuerunt, aut suam mortem miserabantur aut parentes suos commendabant, si quos ex eo periculo Fortuna servare potuisset. The plural may also be used with this meaning without reference to any specific pairs of parents but with reference to parents in general, as in Cicero, *Fin.* 3.9.32: Nam ut peccatum est patriam prodere, parentes violare, fana depeculari...

The plural of *parens* may also mean 'fathers and mothers and fore-parents', as in Lucretius 1.598:

nam si primordia rerum
commutari aliqua possent ratione revicta,
incertum quoque iam constet quid possit oriri,
quid nequeat, finita potestas denique cuique
quanam sit ratione atque alte terminus haerens,
nec totiens possent generatim saecla referre
naturam mores victum motusque parentum.

The meaning 'fathers' is encountered in Caesar, *BG* 5.14.4: uxores habent deni duodenique inter se communes et maxime fratres cum fratribus parentesque cum liberis. Here *parentes* is equivalent to *patres* in meaning and is no more convenient than the latter.

Another meaning met only twice is 'mothers', as in Sallust, *Cat.* 53.5: sed postquam luxu atque desidia civitas corrupta est, rursus

| | 'father and mother' | 'fathers and mothers' | 'fathers mothers, and foreparents' | 'fathers' | 'mothers' | undetermined | totals |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Caesar : | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Cato : | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Catullus : | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Cicero, | | | | | | | |
| orations : | 8 | 20 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 34 |
| corresp. : | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| rhet. works : | 5 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| phil. works : | 11 | 17 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| Ennius : | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Fragments : | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 13 |
| Lucilius : | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Lucretius : | 1 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Naevius : | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nepos : | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Plautus : | 31 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 40 |
| *Rhet. ad. Her :* | 2 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Sallust : | 0 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 14 |
| Terence : | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Varro : | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Totals : | 83 | 83 | 8 | 22 | 2 | 1 | 199 |

TABLE IV.
MEANINGS OF THE OCCURRENCES
OF THE PLURAL OF *PARENS*

res publica magnitudine sua imperatorum atque magistratuum vitia sustentabat, ac sicuti effeta parentum (vi) multis tempestatibus haud sane quisquam Romae virtute magnus fuit [8].

In only one instance is the meaning of the plural of *parens* undetermined. This occurs in a fragment of only five words, *ex incertis incertorum fabulis* (Ribbeck I) 243 : deos parentes, qui penates Terei.

Table IV indicates how the 199 occurrences of the plural of *parens*

8. The best manuscripts have *effeta parentum multis*, although the reading *effeta parente multis* is also found and has been adopted by some editors. Ritschl suggested the reading *effeta parentum vi multis* and he has been followed by Ahlberg and others. The *vi* may have been lost in copying, through pseudo-haplography.

are distributed among the various meanings. A large number of these instances have the meaning ‘father and mother’. There is an equal number of occurrences meaning ‘fathers and mothers’: that is, parents, in general, or two or more pairs of parents.

## V. *PARENS* AS A CONVENIENT WORD

Metrical convenience and metrical preference seem to enter into a poet's choice among *parens*, *pater*, and *mater*. Forms of *parens* provide suitable and desirable endings for lines of several metres, notably the dactylic hexameter. It must be remembered that sometimes a poet may choose one word rather than another because it conveniently fits into a certain place in his line, while on other occasions he writes his line in such a way as to enable him to use the word which he desires. Perhaps the two influences counteract each other.

Of the 17 occurrences of *parens* in Catullus, 16 end the lines in which they are found, although only 13 of the 55 forms of other words of parenthood conclude their verses. Of the 16 occurrences at the end, 12 are in hexameter verses.

In Lucretius, who uses only the dactylic hexameter, 11 of the 12 instances of *parens* end the verses in which they occur. Of the 34 examples of *pater* and *mater*, only 2 stand in that position [9].

In Plautus and Terence, who present a variety of metres, most of the occurrences of *parens* do not end verses. Even in these authors, however, the convenience of *parens* is to be noted at times. An example is Plautus, *Stich*. 54 :

faciendum id nobis quod parentes imperant.

The preceding context indicates that parentes does not mean 'fathers and mothers' and that it is used for *patres*, which could not be used without revising the entire iambic senarius.

If metrical convenience or preference plays a large part in the poet's employment of words of parenthood, the desire for variety often determines whether the orator and prose writer will use *parens* or some other term. Cicero in *Mur*. 5.11-12, a passage amounting in length to a printed page, uses a word for 'father' 8 times in the following order : *patre, patris, parente, patris, patre, parenti, patre, patris*. We may also compare Cicero, *Verr*. 2.V.12.30 : inter eius modi viros

9. *Matrem* twice : 2.349 and 5.1402. Forms of *creatrix* and *omniparens* also occur 3 times and once respectively at the ends of verses in Lucretius : 1.629, 2.1117, 5.1362, and 2.706.

et mulieres adulta aetate filius versabatur, ut eum, etiamsi natura a parentis similitudine abriperet, consuetudo tamen ac disciplina patris similem esse cogeret.

A statement made in Section IV bears repetition in this place. Because of the convenience of the plural of *parens* as a substitute for *pater et mater* and for *patres et matres*, we may expect the plural of *parens* to occur more often relatively than the singular. This is proven by the fact that in general the percentages in column XVI in Table II are much larger than the corresponding percentages in column X. Of the 690 occurrences of all three words in the plural in the whole Republican period, 199 are instances of *parens*, but of the 2311 occurrences of all three words in the singular, only 196 are instances of *parens*.

# VI. THE USE OF *PARENS*, *PATER*, AND *MATER* BY AUTHORS OF THE REPUBLICAN PERIOD

Caesar. Many of the authors of the Republican period, such as Caesar, have used words of parenthood so infrequently that figures indicating the number of instances of each word in such authors have small significance. Table V shows the number of times Caesar employs each of the three words in each case. The nominative singular to the ablative plural are to be read from left to right with the total last.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 3 | — | — | 4 | 5 |
| *pater* | 9 | 5 | 1 | 4 | — | 2 | 21 | 2 | 5 | — | — | — | 1 | 8 | 29 |
| *mater* | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 6 | 10 |

Table V

Cato. Cato uses *pater* only : *pater* (nom.) once, *patrem* four times, and *pater* (voc.) six times.

Catullus. Catullus employs the singular forms of *parens* 10 times as masculine and only once as feminine, although he uses *mater* in the singular more often than *pater*, as Lucretius also does. He has the plural of *parens* 6 times, though *mater* is used only once and *pater* never in the plural. Table VI illustrates Catullus' use of the various cases of the words.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | — | 1 | 11 | 1 | 3 | — | 2 | — | — | 6 | 17 |
| *pater* | 10 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | 18 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 18 |
| *mater* | 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 29 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 30 |

Table VI

Cicero's Orations. In these works we obtain a fair estimate of the relative importance of the three terms. Table VII shows the case distribution of the words as they appear in the *Orations*.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 24 | 20 | 11 | 14 | — | 9 | 78 | 5 | 13 | 8 | 4 | — | 4 | 34 | 112 |
| *pater* | 84 | 94 | 28 | 59 | — | 46 | 311 | 24 | 18 | 8 | 12 | 186 | 7 | 255 | 566 |
| *mater* | 31 | 26 | 6 | 19 | 3 | 14 | 99 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 4 | — | — | 11 | 110 |

TABLE VII

In Table I it is to be noted that the occurrences of *parens*, *pater*, and *mater* in the *Orations* represent respectively 14.2°/o, 71.8°/o, and 14°/o of the total number. Moreover, Table III shows that 68 of the 78 instances of *parens* in the singular were masculine, while Table IV reveals that of the 34 examples of its plural, 9 meant 'father and mother', and 20 meant 'fathers and mothers'. The large number of occurrences of *patres* (vocative plural) in Table VII is to be accounted for entirely by the phrase *patres conscripti* used in addressing the senate. In this phrase there can be no substitution of *parentes* for *patres*. If the 186 instances of *patres conscripti* are deducted from the total number of occurrences of the three words, the 112 examples of *parens* will then represent 18.6°/o of the total instead of 14.2°/o.

CICERONIAN CORRESPONDENCE. For convenience all the correspondence usually included in editions of Cicero's *Letters* has been classed together. This includes, to be sure, the letters written by Cicero, many letters addressed to him by other persons, and a number which were neither written by nor addressed to Cicero. Only 3 instances of each of the three terms are found in letters not from Cicero's own hand, although the total number of occurrences of the three words is 179. Table VIII shows the case distribution.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | — | 2 | 2 | 8 | — | 1 | 13 | — | 1 | — | 3 | — | 2 | 6 | 19 |
| *pater* | 30 | 25 | 7 | 24 | — | 24 | 110 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | — | 8 | 118 |
| *mater* | 5 | 8 | 8 | 15 | — | 5 | 41 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 42 |

TABLE VIII

CICERO'S RHETORICAL WORKS. The rhetorical and philosophical works, in which the three words are used with approximately the same relative frequency, have a percentage distribution of 19.9°/o, 63.7°/o, and 16.4°/o for *parens*, *pater*, and *mater*. The percentage for *parens* is higher than in the *Orations*. Moreover, Table II (column XVI) shows that the figure for *parens* is notably higher for each set

of works when the plural alone is considered. This is owing to the convenience of the plural of *parens*, referred to in sections IV and V. Table IX shows the case distribution for the rhetorical works. The *Partitiones Oratoriae* is unique in having 5 instances of *parens* and only 2 of other terms of parenthood, both examples of the vocative singular of *pater*.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 2 | 3 | — | 3 | — | 1 | 9 | 2 | 3 | — | 6 | — | 4 | 15 | 24 |
| *pater* | 29 | 13 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 6 | 65 | 3 | 4 | — | 4 | — | 1 | 12 | 77 |
| *mater* | 10 | 4 | — | 6 | — | 2 | 22 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 24 |

TABLE IX

CICERO'S PHILOSOPHICAL WORKS. In this division have been included not only the works on philosophy, but also any Ciceronian fragments not previously considered, some of which may be of doubtful authenticity. Table X shows the case distribution for these works.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 14 | 5 | 4 | 7 | — | 2 | 32 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 8 | — | 11 | 30 | 62 |
| *pater* | 38 | 25 | 11 | 28 | 3 | 30 | 135 | 7 | 12 | 3 | 9 | 11 | 22 | 64 | 199 |
| *mater* | 12 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 10 | 39 | 3 | 2 | — | — | — | 3 | 8 | 47 |

TABLE X

ENNIUS. *Parens*, which occurs only three times in this poet, is found twice in the accusative singular and once in the accusative plural. *Mater* occurs eight times and only in the singular, while *pater* is found twenty-seven times in the singular and twice in the plural.

FRAGMENTS. These include the historical, dramatic, poetic, and oratorical fragments of the period not included under the authors cited, as well as the Republican inscriptions[10]. As Table I shows, forms of *parens* constitute 16.1°/o of the number of occurrences of words of parent-hood, *pater* 57°/o, and *mater* 26.9°/o. Many of the fragments date from the earlier literature of the period and here, if any where, one would expect *parens* to be feminine. Yet of the 18 instances of the word in the singular, 16 are clearly masculine. In the plural *parens* occurs 13 times, *pater* 5 times, and *mater* only once. Table IX shows the case distribution.

10. See note 3, on page 8.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 10 | 3 | — | 4 | — | 1 | 18 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 | — | 1 | 13 | 31 |
| *pater* | 36 | 19 | 11 | 17 | 13 | 9 | 105 | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — | 1 | 5 | 110 |
| *mater* | 20 | 5 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 51 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 52 |

Table XI

Lucilius. In this poet *parentum* (genitive plural) is the sole occurrence of the word, *pater* is met only 8 times, and *mater* only twice.

Lucretius. In this author, as in Catullus and Sallust, *parens* gives us over 26°/₀ of the occurrences of the three words. Table XII shows the case distribution. Of the 12 occurrences of *parens*, 9 are in the plural.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 9 | 12 |
| *pater* | 4 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 6 | 1 | 2 | 2 | — | — | 2 | 7 | 13 |
| *mater* | 7 | 4 | 1 | 6 | — | — | 18 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | 3 | 21 |

Table XII

Naevius. In this poet there are no occurrences of *parens*, 7 of *pater*, and 1 of *mater*.

Nepos. All but 3 of the 59 occurrences of the three words are in the singular. Table XIII shows the case distribution.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 4 | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| *pater* | 13 | 3 | 3 | 4 | — | 12 | 35 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 36 |
| *mater* | 6 | 2 | — | 6 | — | 3 | 17 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 17 |

Table XIII

Plautus. In this author, forms of *parens* represent only 6.6°/₀ of the total occurrences of the three words. In Terence the percentage is even lower. This would indicate that *parens* was primarily a literary word encountered more frequently in cultivated literature than in comedies, which supposedly reproduce the language of common speech. Of the 43 examples of *parens*, 40 occur in the plural; these are in contrast to 6 examples of *pater* and 2 of *mater*. Table XIV shows the case distribution.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | 3 | 16 | 6 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 40 | 43 |
| *pater* | 149 | 19 | 64 | 98 | 97 | 28 | 455 | 4 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 6 | 461 |
| *mater* | 36 | 10 | 26 | 42 | 22 | 11 | 147 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 2 | 149 |

TABLE XIV

*Rhetorica ad C. Herennium.* This work, not generally included in Cicero's writings and not so included with them in this study, has, in common with the *De Inventione Rhetorica*, a considerable number of hypothetical rhetorical examples. From these one gets the impression that *parens* was regarded as a word belonging to the language of ornate oratory. This helps to establish the general conclusion that *parens* is a literary word. Table XV shows the case distribution for this work.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | — | — | 8 | 1 | — | 2 | 4 | — | 3 | 10 | 18 |
| *pater* | 3 | 4 | — | 5 | — | — | 12 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 13 |
| *mater* | 1 | — | — | 6 | — | — | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 8 |

TABLE XV

SALLUST. Table XVI shows the case distribution for this author. All but one of the 27 occurrences of *pater* in the vocative plural are found in the phrase *patres conscripti*.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 2 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | — | 3 | 14 | 20 |
| *pater* | 5 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 27 | 7 | 41 | 51 |
| *mater* | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 4 |

TABLE XVI

TERENCE. In this dramatist the examples of *parens* represent only 5°/₀ of the total number of occurrences of the three words, although the 7 instances of it in the plural are in contrast to the 5 of *pater* and the 2 of *mater*. The following table shows the case distribution.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | — | 5 | — | — | 7 | 13 |
| *pater* | 53 | 18 | 19 | 38 | 49 | 13 | 190 | 2 | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 5 | 195 |
| *mater* | 20 | 5 | 2 | 11 | 5 | 5 | 48 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 50 |

TABLE XVII

VARRO. In Varro's works it is to be noted that *mater* is used 54 times while *pater* is used only 36 times. This greater use of *mater* results from its employment 42 times in the *De Re Rustica*, a work in which there are many references to stock-raising and to animal mothers. Table XVIII shows the case distribution.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | — | — | — | — | 7 | 9 |
| *pater* | 12 | 3 | 3 | 4 | — | 5 | 27 | 4 | — | 1 | 4 | — | — | 9 | 36 |
| *mater* | 9 | 5 | 1 | 11 | — | 4 | 30 | 9 | — | 1 | 3 | — | 11 | 24 | 54 |

TABLE XVIII

ENTIRE PERIOD. Table XIX shows the case distribution for the Republican period. It is a composite of Table V to XVIII inclusive, with the addition of occurrences in authors for whom there are no tables.

| | Singular | | | | | | | Plural | | | | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | N | G | D | Ac | V | Ab | Total | S. + P. |
| *parens* | 60 | 42 | 26 | 47 | — | 21 | 196 | 43 | 46 | 21 | 57 | 1 | 31 | 199 | 395 |
| *pater* | 497 | 235 | 153 | 306 | 180 | 179 | 1550 | 57 | 48 | 16 | 39 | 225 | 42 | 427 | 1977 |
| *mater* | 170 | 88 | 62 | 143 | 39 | 63 | 565 | 24 | 8 | 2 | 13 | — | 17 | 64 | 629 |

TABLE XIX

The totals show a grand total of 3001 examples of the use of *parens*, *pater*, and *mater* in the literary remains of the Republican period. This also agrees with the sum of column IX in Table II, if 1400, the total of Cicero's writings, be omitted. The latter should not be counted since it duplicates the sum of the four totals of the four divisions of Cicero's works appearing below it.

# VII. INDICATIONS OF MEANING OF OCCURRENCES OF *PARENS*

There are several ways in which the gender or meaning of the occurrences of *parens* is indicated. The most obvious indication is that afforded by a modifier, as in Cicero, *Planc.* 42.102 : simul hic miserrimus et optimus obtestatur parens. Here the adjectives *miserrimus* and *optimus* definitely show that *parens* is masculine. Another example is Terence, *Heaut.* 1027 : quod peto aut quod volo, parentes meos ut commonstres mihi[11]. In this, *meos* limits *parentes* to the meaning 'father and mother'. An examination of passages of this sort never suggests the meaning 'father and grandfather', or any similar interpretation. When *noster*, *vester*, or *suus* modifies the singular of *parens* it indicates by its gender whether a father or a mother is referred to, as in Caesar, *BC* 1.74.6 : filius adulescens de sua ac parentis sui salute cum Caesare per Sulpicium legatum agebat. The meaning of the plural of *parens*, however, is not indicated by *noster*, *vester*, or *suus*; *nostris* does not reveal the meaning of *parentibus* in Cicero, *Fam.* 6.16.1 (Bithynicus Ciceroni) : si mihi tecum non et multae et iustae causae amicitiae privatim essent, repeterem initia amicitiae ex parentibus nostris...

The category 'modifier' has been extended to include any occurrence in which one word in close proximity to the form of *parens* and in the same case shows its gender or meaning. The category would, therefore, include appositives as well as attributive adjectives. An example of the indication of meaning by apposition is met in Cicero, *Div.* 1.2.3. : principio huius urbis parens Romulus non solum auspicato urbem condidisse, sed ipse etiam optimus augur fuisse traditur.

In most instances one must rely on the context to indicate gender or meaning[12]. For example, *parentibus* clearly means 'father and

11. For similar passages, see Cicero *Rep.* 1.22.35; Turpilius 32 (Ribbeck); Plautus *Curc.* 605, *Ep.* 637, *Merc.* 834, 835, 948, *Poen.* 1062, *Rud.* 216, 1144, 1147.

12. The phrase *parens patriae* is almost always equivalent to *pater patriae*. See Cicero *in Pisonem* 3.6 and *Philippica* XIII.10.23 and 11.25 for examples. Yet Tacitus (*Ann.* 1.14.2) uses it in referring to the Augusta and the adulation rendered to

| | Modifier sg. | Modifier pl. | Context sg. | Context pl. | Conjecture sg. | Conjecture pl. | Undetermined sg. | Undetermined pl. | Totals |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Caesar : | 1 | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| Cato : | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 |
| Catullus : | 7 | — | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 17 |
| Cicero, | | | | | | | | | |
| orations : | 35 | — | 34 | 14 | 8 | 20 | 1 | — | 112 |
| corresp. : | 8 | — | 5 | 2 | — | 4 | — | — | 19 |
| rhet. works : | 4 | — | 1 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 3 | — | 24 |
| phil. works : | 2 | 1 | 21 | 27 | 5 | 2 | 4 | — | 62 |
| Ennius : | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 3 |
| Fragments : | 11 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 31 |
| Lucilius : | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Lucretius : | 1 | — | 1 | 8 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 12 |
| Naevius : | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 |
| Nepos : | — | — | 3 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 6 |
| Plautus : | 1 | 9 | 1 | 27 | — | 4 | 1 | — | 43 |
| *Rhet. ad. Her.* : | — | — | 4 | 10 | 1 | — | 3 | — | 18 |
| Sallust : | 4 | — | 1 | 10 | — | 4 | 1 | — | 20 |
| Terence : | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | — | — | — | — | 13 |
| Varro : | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | — | 3 | — | — | 9 |
| Totals : | 77 | 13 | 83 | 139 | 21 | 46 | 15 | 1 | 395 |

TABLE XX
INDICATIONS OF MEANINGS OF
OCCURRENCES OF *PARENS*

mother' in Plautus, *Rud.* 738 : nam altera haec est nata Athenis ingenuis parentibus. Although no one word indicates it, the context shows that the parents are the father and the mother of the subject of the sentence.

An example of a certain type is in Cicero, *Fam.* 5.8.4 : magis sum Publio deditus, quod me, quamquam a pueritia sua semper, tamen hoc tempore maxime sicut alterum parentem et observat et diligit. Here the context indicates that *parentem* is masculine, but because *alterum* modifies *parentem* and a modifier must be considered the primary index of meaning, this instance of *parens* is to be classified with those the significance of which is determined by modifiers rather than merely by contexts.

her by the senators during Tiberius' reign : alii parentem, alii matrem patriae appellandam, plerique ut nomini Caesaris adscriberetur 'Iuliae filius' censebant. The second group may have favored *mater* because *parens patriae* was a phrase used of a number of men, notably Augustus.

Conjecture often gives us a reasonable certainty as to meaning, as in Lucretius 2.1167:

> iamque caput quassans grandis suspirat arator
> crebrius, incassum magnum cecidisse laborem,
> et cum tempora temporibus praesentia confert
> praeteritis, laudat fortunas saepe parentis.

Here the *parentis* probably signifies 'father', although it might mean 'forefather'. Naturally, in many instances there is room for disagreement as to whether the meaning is determined by context or by conjecture.

Table XX shows the 395 occurrences of *parens* classified as to the indices of their meanings. Where *parens* is of common gender or its meaning is indeterminable, the example has been placed in the category 'undetermined'. The singular and the plural are given separately for each author or division of an author's works.

The list at the end of this section indicates the passage in which each occurrence is met, its form, its meaning, and the way in which its meaning is determined. When an attributive adjective or an appositive indicates the meaning, it is cited along with the form of *parens*. The abbreviations and exponents included in the parentheses show the meaning and the index of the meaning, as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| f = father | | 1 = modifier | |
| m = mother | | 2 = context | |
| ff = fathers | | 3 = conjecture | |
| mm = mothers | | 4 = undetermined | |
| fm = father and mother | | | |
| ffmm = fathers and mothers | | | |
| ffmma = fathers, mothers, and foreparents | | | |
| un = undetermined | | | |

The list follows:

CAESAR: *BG* 1.74.6 parentis sui (f$^1$), 2.41.8 parentes (ffmm$^2$); *BC* 5.14.4 parentes (ff$^2$), 6.14.2 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), 7.66.7 parentes (fm$^2$).

CATULLUS: 23.5 tuo parente (f$^1$), 23.6 parentis (f$^2$), 61.51 tremulus parens (f$^1$), 61.67 parens (m$^2$), 62.28 parentes (fm$^3$), 62.58 parenti (f$^3$), 62.62 parentum (fm$^2$), 64.159 prisci parentis (f$^1$), 64.210 maesto parenti (f$^1$), 64.400 parentes (fm$^2$), 64.404 parentes (ffmma$^2$), 66.15 parentum (ffmm$^3$), 67.1 parenti (f$^2$), 67.29 egregium parentem (f$^1$), 68.119 confecto parenti (f$^1$), 68.142 tremuli parentis (f$^1$), 101.7 parentum (ffmma$^2$).

CICERO, *Orations*: *Balb.* 5.11 parente meo (f$^1$); *Cael.* 2.4 parentis (f$^2$), ib. parentes

(fm$^2$), 2.5 parenti viro (f$^1$), 3.7 parentem tuum (f$^1$), 11.25 parens (f$^3$), 17.39 parens (f$^2$), 32.79 parentum (ff$^3$), 32.80 parenti (f$^2$), ib. parentem (f$^2$); *Cat.* I.7.17 parens (m$^2$), ib. parentes (fm$^3$), II.4.8 parentum (ffmm$^3$); *Clu.* 6.17 parentis (m$^2$), ib. parentum (ffmm$^3$). 11.32 parentis (f$^2$), 15.45 parentis (m$^2$), 69.195 parentum (ffmm$^2$), 70.200 parenti (m$^2$), 71.202 parentem (m$^2$); *Div. in Caecil.* 19.61 parentis (f$^2$), 19.62 parentis (f$^2$); *Dom.* 35.94 mitissimum parentem (f$^1$); *Flac.* 26.62 terra parens (m$^2$); *Font.* 18.41 parentis (f$^2$), 21.48 parentis (f$^3$); *Har. Resp.* 27.57 parentum (ffmma$^3$); ib. parentibus (ffmm$^3$); *Imp. Pomp.* 9.22 parens (f$^2$); *Lig.* 10.30 parentem *bis* (f$^2$); *Mil.* 37.102 parentem alterum (f$^1$); *Mur.* 5.11 parente (f$^2$), 5.12 parenti suo (f$^1$), 41.88 parentis sui (f$^1$), 41.89 parente (m$^2$); *Phil.* II. 5.12 parenti (f$^2$), II. 13.31 parentem suum (f$^1$), II. 20.49 parentem tuam (m$^1$), V. 2.6 parentes (ffmm$^2$), XIII.10.23 Caesarem parentem (f$^1$), XIII.11.25 ille parens (f$^1$), ib. hic parens (f$^1$), XIII.20.47 parentis sui (f$^1$), XIV.13.34 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), XIV.13.35 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), XIV.14.38 parentibus (ffmm$^3$); *Pis.* 3.6 parentem (f$^2$); *Planc.* 10.25 parenti (f$^2$), ib. parente (f$^3$), 11.28 parentum (ff$^2$), 12.29 parens (f$^2$), ib. parente (f$^2$), 30.72 parenti (un$^4$), 33.80 parentes (fm$^2$), 41.97 parentis prudentissimi atque optimi senis (f$^1$), 42.102 miserrimus et optimus parens (f$^1$); *Rab. Perd.* 10.27 Marium parentem (f$^1$); *Red. Quir.* 2.5 parentibus (dat.; fm$^2$), ib. parentibus (abl.; fm$^2$), 3.8 hic parens (f$^1$), 5.11 Lentulus parens (f$^1$); *Red. in Sen.* 1.1 parentes (ff$^3$), 1.2 parentum (fm$^3$), ib. parentibus (fm$^3$), ib. parentes (fm$^3$), 2.4 parentibus (ff$^3$), 4.8 Lentulus parens (f$^1$), 8.21 parenti (f$^2$), 11.29 parente (f$^3$), 14.35 parentis (f$^2$), 15.37 qui parens (f$^1$); *Quint. Rosc.* 1.3 parens (f$^3$); *Sex. Rosc.* 13.37 parenti (f$^2$), 14.40 parenti (f$^2$), 19.53 incensus parens (f$^1$), 24.67 parentium (ffmm$^2$), 24.68 parentis (f$^2$), 25.70 parentem (f$^2$); *Scaur.* 45a parens illa (m$^1$); *Sest.* 3.6 parente homine (f$^1$), 69.144 patrem parentem (f$^1$); *Sull.* 6.19 parentis (f$^2$), 12.34 parens homo (f$^1$), 16.46 parenti (f$^3$), 17.49 parentis tui (f$^1$), 29.81 parens tuus (f$^1$), ib. tuus parens (f$^1$), 32.89 parente (f$^3$); *Verr.* 2. I.3.7 parentis (f$^3$), ib. parentum (ffmm$^3$), 2.I.26.66 qui parens (f$^1$), 2.I.30.76 parens ille (f$^1$), 2.II.40.98 parens tuus (f$^1$), 2.III.25.63 parentis (f$^2$), 2.III.69.161 improbo et impuro parente (f$^1$), 2.IV.19.41 parentis (f$^2$), 2.V.9.23 parentium (ffmm$^3$), 2.V.12.30 parentis (f$^2$), 2.V.42.108 parentes (ff$^3$), 2.V.42.110 alter parens (f$^1$), 2.V.45.117 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), 2.V.45.119 parentes (ffmm$^3$), ib. parentibus *bis* (ffmm$^3$), ib. parentis (ffmm$^3$), 2.V.47.123 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), 2.V.49.130 parentum (ffmm$^2$), 2.V.52.137 parentis (f$^2$), 2.V.52.138 parentum *bis* (ffmm$^3$), 2.V.53.138 tuus parens (f$^1$).

Cicero, *Correspondence*: *Att.* 9.9.2 antiquissimam et sanctissimam parentem (m$^1$), ib. parentis (fm$^2$), 9.10.3 quem parentem (f$^1$), 16.15.3 parentis (f$^2$); *Brut.* 1.12.2 parentum (ff$^3$). ib. parentis (ff$^3$), 1.17.6 dominum parentem (f$^1$); *Fam.* 4.5.3 parente (f$^2$), 5.8.4 alterum parentem (f$^1$), 5.10a.2 parentis (ffmm$^3$), 6.16.1 parentibus (ff$^3$), 6.22.2 parenti (m$^2$), 12.3.1 parenti merito (f$^1$), 13.29.3 quem parentem (f$^1$), 15.7.1 parentis tui (f$^1$), 15.11.1 parentibus (fm$^2$); (pseudo-Cic.) *ad Octavianum* 7 eundem parentem (f$^1$); *Quint. Fr.* 1.1.10.31 parentem (f$^2$), 1.3.1.3 parentem (f$^2$).

Cicero, *Rhetorical works*: *Brut.* 1.1 parentis (f$^2$); *Invent.* 1.54.103 parentes (fm$^2$), 1.54.105 parentibus (ffmma$^2$), 1.55.108 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), 1.55.109 parente (f$^3$), ib. parentum (fm$^2$), 2.11.35 parentes *bis* (fm$^2$), 2.15.48 parentem (un$^4$), 2.19.58 parentis (un$^4$), 2.22.66 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 2.28.86 parentes (fm$^2$), 2.50.149 parentem (un$^4$); *de Oratore* I. 3.9 parentem eam (m$^1$), I. 44.196 patria parens (m$^1$), II. 28.124 boni parentis (f$^1$), III. 1.3 parens bonus (f$^1$); *Part. Or.* 16.56 parentum (ffmm$^2$), 19.67 parentes (ffmm$^3$), 22.78 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 24.86 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 25.88 parentum (ffmm$^3$); *Top.* 16.60 parentibus *bis* (ffmm$^2$).

CICERO, *Philosophical works*, etc. : *Acad.* 1.2.5 parentes (ff$^3$); *Amic.* 8.27 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 19.70 parentibus (ffmm$^2$) ; *Div.* 1.2.3 parens Romulus (f$^1$), 2.4.11 parentibus (fm$^2$), 2.45.94 parentibus (ffmm$^2$) ; *Fin.* 1.15.49 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 2.1.1 qui parens (f$^1$), 3.9.32 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 3.17.57 parentibus (fm$^3$), 3.19.62 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), 4.6.14 parentibus (fm$^2$), 4.27.76 parentem *bis* (f$^3$), 5.19.52 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 5.23.68 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 5.24.69 parentis (un$^4$) ; *Leg.* 1.17.47 parens (un$^4$), 1.24.62 parens sapientia (m$^1$), 2.24.60 parenti (f$^3$) ; *Nat. D.* 1.34.93 Socraten ipsum parentem (f$^1$), 2.34.86 parens mundus (f$^1$). 3.17.44 parentes (fm$^2$), 3.26.67 parens (f$^2$), 3.29.72 parentem avarum (f$^1$) ; *Off.* 1.7.23 parentes (fm$^2$), 1.17.57 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 1.17.58 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 1.28.97 ipse parens (f$^1$), 1.32.118 parentium *bis* (ffmm$^2$), 1.35.129 parentibus (ff$^2$), 1.43.154 parentis (f$^2$), 1.45.160 parentibus (fm$^2$), 2.13.46 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 3.6.28 parenti (f$^3$), 3.21.83 is parens (f$^1$), 3.23.90 parentes (ffmm$^2$), 3.26.97 parentibus (fm$^2$) ; *Orat. pridie quam in ex. iret* 12.29 parentibus (ffmm$^2$) ; *Parad.* 3.2.24 parenti (un$^4$), ib. parentes (ffmm$^2$) ; *Rep.* 1.12.18 parentis (f$^2$), 1.22.35 parentibus meis (1m$^1$), 1. frg. 2 parens[13] (un$^4$), ib. parenti (un$^4$), 2.26.47 qui parens (f$^1$), 3.25.37 parens (f$^2$), 6.16.16 parentibus (fm$^2$) ; *in Sal. Crisp.* 5.13 parentem tuum (f$^1$) ; *Tim.* 2.6 illum parentem (f$^1$), 11.40 parens (f$^2$), 13.47 parentis (f$^2$) ; *Tusc. Disp.* 1.49.118 natura parente (m$^1$), 2.21.48 parens (f$^2$), 2.22.51 iustus parens (f$^1$), 3.1.2 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), 5.2.6 parentem (m$^2$), 5.13.37 parente natura (m$^1$), 5.20.58 parentibus (fm$^2$) ; frg. in *Ciceronis scripta quae manserunt omnia* IV. 3.366 parentis (f$^3$), frg. ib. IV.3.402 parentes (fm$^2$).

ENNIUS : *Hecuba* 211 parentem (f$^3$) ; *Var. Euh.* 90 parentes (fm$^2$) ; *Fab. Inc.* 406 parentem (un$^4$).

FRAGMENTS : *Accius* 226 ipse parens (f$^1$) ; *Afranius* 33 parentum (ffmm$^2$), 406 parente (un$^4$); *Caecilius* 200 parentem avarum (f$^1$) ; *Laberius* 54 genius parens (f$^1$) ; *Pacuvius* 43 parentum (fm$^3$), 220 mei parentis (f$^1$) ; *Publilius Syrus* 18 parentem (f$^2$), 355 parens iratus (f$^1$) ; *Turpilius* 32 meos parentis (fm$^1$) ; *ex incertis incertorum fabulis (trag.)* 169 parens (f$^2$), 243 parentes (un$^4$).

Q. Claudius Quadrigarius, *Annales* 19 parentes (ffmm$^3$) ; Q. Aelius Tubero, *Historiae* 1 parentibus (ffmma$^3$).

Q. Caecilius Metellus, *oratio de prole augenda* : parentes *bis* (ff$^2$).

*Carmen Saliare* 1 parentem (f$^2$).

*Corpus Inscr. Lat.* I. 583.3 parens suos (f$^1$), 583.33 parentis (f$^3$), 583.60 parens suos (f$^1$), ib. parentis suei (f$^1$), 597a ipse parens (f$^1$), 1211 parentes (fm$^2$), 1215 parentibus (fm$^2$), 1221 vir parens (f$^1$), 1531 asper parens (f$^1$), 1570 parens (m$^2$), 1596 parentum (ffmma$^3$), 1924 parentibus (fm$^2$), 2122 parentibus (fm$^2$), 2273 parentem f$^3$).

LUCILIUS : 1338 parentum (fm$^2$).

LUCRETIUS : 1.89 maestum parentem (f$^1$), 1.99 parentis (f$^2$), 1.598 parentum (ffmma$^2$), 2.605 parentum (ffmm$^2$). 2.643 parentibus (ffmm$^2$), 2.665 parentum (ffmma$^2$). 2.1167 parentis (f$^3$), 3.85 parentis (ffmm$^3$), 4.1213 parentum (fm$^2$), 4.1221 parentis[14] (ffmm$^2$), 5.1017 parentum (ffmm$^2$), 6.1256 parentum (ffmm$^2$).

13. This instance and the one immediately following are in an interesting passage : Sic, quoniam plura beneficia continet patria et est antiquior parens quam is, qui creavit, maior ei profecto quam parenti debetur gratia.

14. An archaic form of the nominative plural. See W. A. Merrill's edition of Lucretius, 1.808 note.

NEPOS : *Alcib.* 2.2 parente (f$^{2}$) ; *Att.* 9.4 parente (f$^{3}$) ; *Dion* 6.2 parens (f$^{2}$) ; *Them.* 1.2 parentibus (fm$^{2}$) ; *Tim.* 1.4 parentibus (fm$^{2}$); *frg.* 2 parentem (m$^{2}$).

PLAUTUS : *Am.* 650 parentes (ffmm$^{3}$), 841 parentum (fm$^{2}$) ; *As.* 64 parentes (ff$^{3}$) ; *Bacch.* 1081 parentes (ff$^{3}$) ; *Capt.* 375 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 411 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 626 parentum (fm$^{3}$), 1008 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$) ; *Cist.* 630 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 636 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 714 parentes (fm$^{2}$) ; *Curc.* 605 parentes meos (fm$^{1}$) ; *Ep.* 637 meum parentum (fm$^{1}$); *Merc.* 209 parenti (f$^{2}$), 834 meum parentum (fm$^{1}$), 835 meum parentum (fm$^{1}$), 948 parentes mei (fm$^{1}$) ; *Most.* 120 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$)[15] ; *Pers.* 150 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 366 parentibus (fm$^{2}$), 381 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 596 parentibus (fm$^{2}$), 618 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 620 parentes (fm$^{2}$) ; *Poen.* 110 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 1062 tuom parentum (fm$^{1}$), 1208 parentes (fm$^{2}$) ; *Rud.* 192 parentem (un$^{4}$), 197a parentes (fm$^{2}$), 216 parentes mei (fm$^{1}$), 390 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 393 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 738 parentibus (fm$^{2}$), 748 parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$), 1084 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 1110 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 1144 mei parentes (fm$^{1}$), 1147 parentes tuos (fm$^{1}$) ; *Stich.* 54 parentes (ff$^{2}$), 96 suom parentem (f$^{1}$) ; *Trin.* 307 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 1038 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$) ; *Truc.* 59 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$).

*Rhetorica ad C. Herennium* : 1.10.17 parentem (m$^{2}$), 2.13.19 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$), ib. parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$), 2.31.50 parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$), 3.3.4 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$), 3.3.5 parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$), 4.13.19 parenti (un$^{4}$), 4.16.23 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 4.20.27 parens (f$^{2}$), 4.22.31 parentis (f$^{3}$), 4.24.34 parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$), 4.26.35 parens (un$^{4}$), 4.28.38 parenti (f$^{2}$), 4.30.41 parenti (f$^{2}$), 4.35.47 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$), 4.39.51 parens (un$^{4}$), 4.40.52 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 4.44.57 parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$).

SALLUST : *Cat.* 6.5 parentis (ffmm$^{2}$), 37.9 parentes (ff$^{2}$), 39.5 parens (f$^{2}$), 43.2 parentis (ff$^{2}$), 51.9 parentum (ffmm$^{2}$), 52.3 parentibus (ffmm$^{3}$), 53.5 parentum (mm$^{2}$) ; *Jug.* 14.2 parentis mei (f$^{1}$), 14.21 parentem nostrum (f$^{1}$), 14.25 parentis (ffmm$^{2}$), 18.11 parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$), 31.5 parente meo (f$^{1}$), 41.8 parentes (ffmm$^{2}$), 85.40 parente meo (f$^{1}$), 85.49 parens (un$^{4}$), 87.2 parentis (ffmm$^{2}$), *Frg.* II.91 parentibus (ffmm$^{2}$), II.92 parentum (ff$^{3}$), IV. 69 parentibus (ffmm$^{3}$), *Frg. incerta* 9 parentis (ffmm$^{3}$).

TERENCE : *Ad.* 31 parentes (fm$^{2}$) ; *And.* 806 parentis (fm$^{2}$), 969 parentis (fm$^{2}$) ; *Heaut.* 194 parentis (fm$^{2}$), 202 parentem suom (f$^{1}$), 204 parentum (ff$^{2}$), 1027 parentes meos (fm$^{1}$), 1035 parentis (f$^{2}$), 1039 parentis (fm$^{2}$) ; *Hec.* 448 parenti (m$^{2}$), 483 parente (m$^{2}$), *Phorm.* 357 parens (f$^{2}$), 496 parens amicus (f$^{1}$).

VARRO : *LL* 8.66 parentum (ff$^{3}$), ib. parentium (ff$^{3}$), 9.43 parentes (ffmm$^{3}$) ; *Men. Sat.* 235 parentem (m$^{2}$) ; *RR* 1.1.5 parentes (fm$^{2}$), 2.5.9 parentum (fm$^{2}$), 2.6.3 parentum (fm$^{2}$), 3.7.10 candidae parentes (mm$^{1}$) ; grammatical frg. 72 parente meo (f$^{1}$).

15. Some might interpret this occurrence to mean ‘ fathers ’ because of the sense of the rest of the passage.

## VIII. SUMMARY

The foregoing discussion of *parens*, *pater*, and *mater* can be briefly summarized.

Because of the meaning of *pario*, it would be an a priori assumption that its participle *parens* was originally feminine. However, whatever change *parens* underwent must have taken place before the production of extant Latin literature. In this, from the earliest remains down to the end of the Republic, the singular of *parens* means 'father' six times as often as 'mother'. This is especially noteworthy in view of the fact that the singular of *pater* is not used three times as often as the singular of *mater*.

The plural of *parens* means 'father and mother' or 'fathers and mothers' in approximately four instances out of five. This is undoubtedly because of the convenience of *parentes* as a substitute for *pater et mater* and for *patres et matres*. The plural of *parens* occurs relatively more often than its singular because of this convenience of use.

In most instances the context determines the meaning for us, though we encounter many times a type of occurrence for which at least one word, an attributive adjective or an appositive, in close proximity to the form of *pdrens* and in the same case definitely indicates its meaning.

This investigation shows further that *parens* was regarded as a literary word, especially in the singular. The three authors in whose works the instances of *parens* represent the highest percentage of the total occurrences of the three words of parenthood are Sallust, who employed a rhetorical style, and Catullus and Lucretius, poets who necessarily used a literary vocabulary and who found forms of *parens* convenient to end verses. The still higher percentage for the special work, *Rhetorica ad Herennium*, is owing to the numerous hypothetical rhetorical examples, in which *parens* is used as a distinctly literary word. The two authors of significance in whose works the instances of *parens* represent the smallest percentage of the total occurrences of the three words of parenthood are Plautus and Terence, writers of comedies which reproduced the Latin of the streets.

There are 3001 instances of the use of the three major words of parenthood in Republican literature. Of this number, 395 are forms of *parens*, a percentage of 13.2. This percentage would not be so high were the singular number alone considered. For the plural alone, however, it would be much higher because of the convenient use of *parentes* meaning 'father and mother', or 'fathers and mothers', for which neither *patres* nor *matres* may properly be substituted.

In noting the more frequent occurrence of *pater* than of *mater* and the fact that *parens* refers more often to a male parent than to a female parent, we must remember three factors. First, the extant Latin literature of the Republic was written entirely by men; second, it was written primarily for male readers and auditors; and third, it was primarily concerned with men.

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